

# DEQ

## BOARD & COUNCILS

**ENVIRONMENTAL  
QUALITY BOARD  
ADVISORY COUNCILS  
EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR'S  
OFFICE  
DEQ FUNDING  
DIVISIONS  
RULEMAKING**



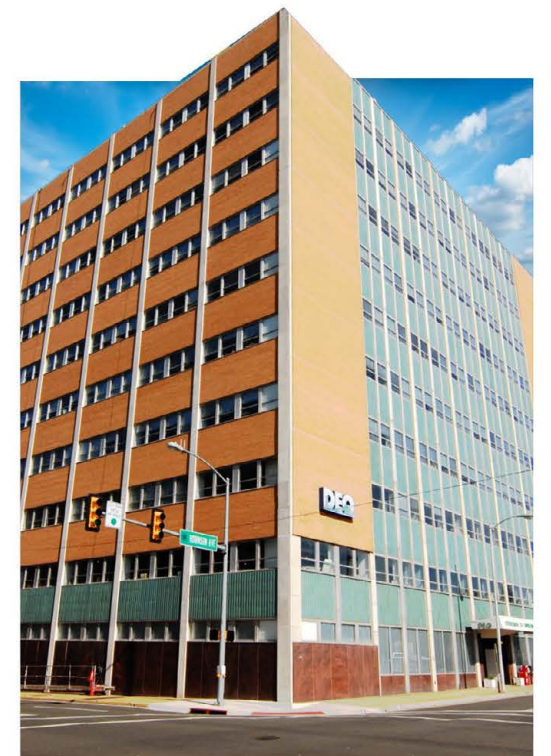
**SEPTEMBER 2021**



1993



**D**EQ was founded in 1993. Previously, state level environmental regulations occurred under the Environmental Health Branch of the Oklahoma State Department of Health. On July 1, 1993, DEQ opened its doors for the first time as its own agency. DEQ administers environmental regulations for the state, responds to natural and environmental disasters, assists citizens and businesses, and oversees numerous other programs.





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# ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD



The Oklahoma Legislature established the Environmental Quality Board (EQB). It's comprised of Oklahoma citizens to provide guidance to the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Board members have a variety of backgrounds in manufacturing, hazardous waste management, solid waste management, petroleum industry, agriculture, water usage, conservation, rural water systems, pollution control, municipal government, and statewide environmental groups. These members are appointed by the Governor, confirmed by the Senate and serve a five-year term. Upon completion of their five-year term, board members can be reappointed. The Environmental Quality Board is subject to the Open Meeting Act and Open Records Act. The board's responsibilities include:

- SERVING AS THE RULEMAKING BODY FOR DEQ
- ASSISTING WITH POLICY
- APPROVING BUDGET REQUESTS
- PROVIDING RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE
- PROVIDING PUBLIC FORUM OPPORTUNITIES
- APPOINTING THE DEQ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & FIXING COMPENSATION





# ADVISORY COUNCILS

DEQ has five advisory councils that are responsible for rule-making. Members are appointed due to their knowledge and background. As a member, each individual represents their industry as a whole. Council membership is broken down as follows:

## AIR QUALITY

Air Quality Advisory Council	
Professional Realm	Appointing Official
Electric Utilities	Governor
General Public	Governor
Agriculture	Governor
Local Government	Governor
Petroleum	Governor
Transportation	Governor
Engineering	Governor
Higher Education	Governor
Manufacturing	Governor

## HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

Hazardous Waste Management Advisory Council	
Professional Realm	Appointing Official
Political Subdivision	Governor
Industry	Governor
Statewide Non-Profit Environmental Association	Governor
Industry Generating Hazardous Waste	Pro Tempore
General Public	Pro Tempore
Political Subdivision	Pro Tempore
Geology	Speaker of the House
Engineering	Speaker of the House
Hazardous Waste Industry	Speaker of the House



# RADIATION MANAGEMENT

Radiation Management Advisory Council	
Professional Realm	Appointing Official
Environmental Organization	Governor
Engineering Profession	Governor
Industry Located in this State Which Uses Sources of Radiation in its Manufacturing or Processing Business	Governor
General Public	Pro Tempore
Industrial Radiography	Pro Tempore
Faculty of Institution of Higher Learning of University Status	Pro Tempore
Transportation Industry	Speaker of the House
Medical Industry	Speaker of the House
Petroleum Industry	Speaker of the House

Solid Waste Management Advisory Council	
Professional Realm	Appointing Official
Statewide Environmental Organization	Governor
General Public	Governor
County Commissioner	Governor
Industry Generating Solid Waste	Pro Tempore
Political Subdivision	Pro Tempore
Geology	Pro Tempore
Transportation	Speaker of the House
Solid Waste Disposal Industry	Speaker of the House
Engineering	Speaker of the House
Waste-To-Energy Industry	Speaker of the House

# SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

# WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

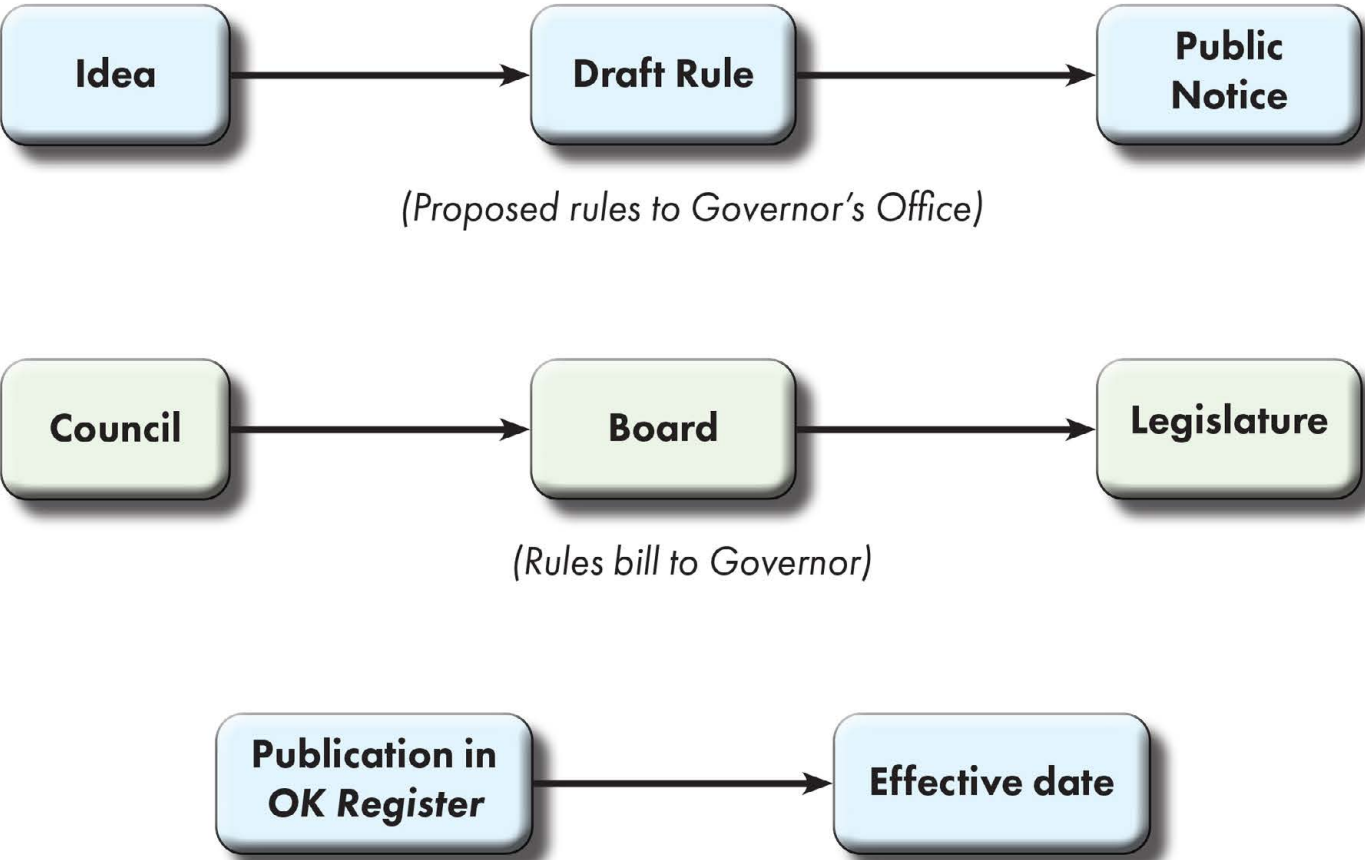
Water Quality Management Advisory Council	
Professional Realm	Appointing Official
General Public	Governor
Engineering	Governor
Private Laboratory	Governor
Statewide Environmental Organization	Governor
Industry	Pro Tempore
Oil Field Related	Pro Tempore
Geology	Pro Tempore
Operator for Municipal Waterworks or Wastewater Works Facility	Pro Tempore
Agriculture	Speaker of the House
Rural Water District	Speaker of the House
Operator in Rural Water or Sewer District	Speaker of the House
Local Government	Speaker of the House





# RULEMAKING

## General (Non-Emergency) Rulemaking Process



## STATE FEDERAL RELATIONSHIP

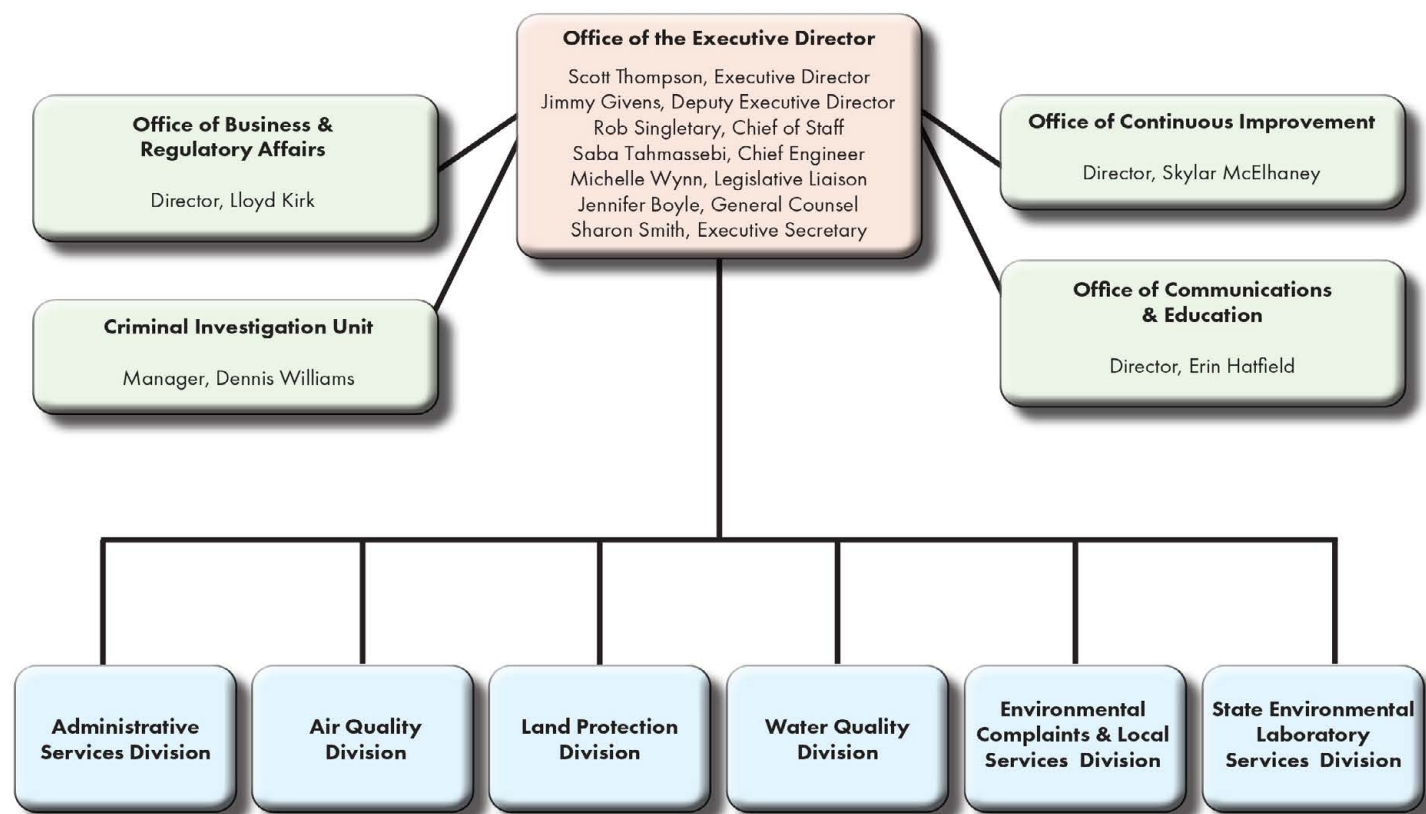
Several major federal environmental programs can be delegated to states for implementation and enforcement. DEQ administers most delegable elements of the federal Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, and Clean Air Act. In delegated programs, federal requirements are generally adopted by reference into state rules.





# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

## Overview of DEQ Organization



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DEQ's Executive Director is Scott Thompson. The Executive Director has many duties, including: directing agency policy, overseeing agency administration, representing the agency in intergovernmental interaction, directing agency response to high-profile issues, and issuing enforcement orders and Tier III permits.



## DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DEQ's Deputy Executive Director is Jimmy Givens. His responsibilities include: managing day-to-day issues; serving as the direct manager for Division Directors and others; assisting the Executive Director with policy, especially internal policies and legislation; and representing and acting on behalf of the Executive Director at his direction or in his absence.



## CHIEF OF STAFF

Rob Singletary is DEQ's Chief of Staff. He is responsible for assisting the Executive Director and the Deputy Executive Director in the administration of the agency. He works with the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director to oversee the development, communication and implementation of policy for the agency. He provides oversight of the agency's environmental program divisions and the Criminal Investigation Unit.







## CHIEF ENGINEER

DEQ's Chief Engineer is Saba Tahmassebi. The Chief Engineer provides guidance and promotes consistency across the agency on technical issues; helps identify process improvements, especially with respect to environmental permitting; serves as technical ombudsman for permitting and enforcement actions; and communicates with federal counterparts to help shape federal rules, policies and initiatives.



## LEGISLATIVE LIAISON

DEQ's Legislative Liaison is Michelle Wynn. As Legislative Liaison, she spearheads the agency's efforts and input on legislation, legislative hearings/studies, etc; is the principal contact for informational inquiries, constituent referrals, etc. from the Governor's office, legislators, and members of Congress; and maintains communications with other liaisons, lobbyists, and stakeholders on matters of mutual interest.



## GENERAL COUNSEL

DEQ's General Counsel is Jennifer Boyle. She provides legal counsel to the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director, oversees agency rulemaking and enforcement processes, manages and directs DEQ's legal staff, and supervises the Board and Councils Secretary. Office of General Counsel lawyers provide legal services to the agency as a whole. Most OGC lawyers focus on a particular regulatory division.



## OFFICE OF CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Skylar McElhaney is DEQ's Director of Continuous Improvement. She oversees agency implementation of process innovation and continuous improvement initiatives designed to improve operational performance and customer service. Her work helps DEQ achieve goals detailed in the agency's five-year strategic plan, which results in better communication and response to Oklahomans.



## OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS & EDUCATION

Erin Hatfield is the Director of the Office of Communications & Education. She is responsible for managing DEQ's brand by working with news media, creating content for social media platforms, and overseeing all of the agency's publications and environmental education outreach. Through these efforts, she ensures DEQ is effectively communicating its message to the public.



## OFFICE OF BUSINESS & REGULATORY AFFAIRS

Lloyd Kirk is Director for the Office of Business and Regulatory Affairs. The Office of Business and Regulatory Affairs provides customer assistance, permit and technical assistance, compliance assistance and regulatory assistance to the regulated community, especially businesses and business-related organizations.



# ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION



**DIRECTOR**  
**CATHERINE SHARP**



**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR**  
**KATHY AEBISCHER**

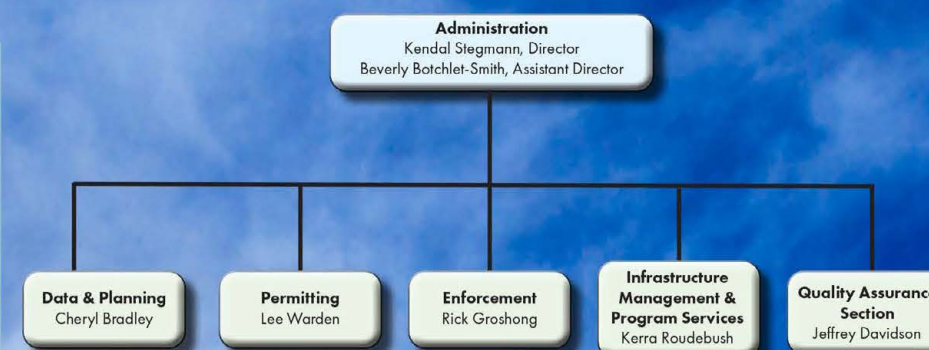
The Administrative Services Division has four main responsibilities. This includes Human Resources, Financial Management (including Budgets, Payables & Grants; Revenue Management; and Acquisitions & Procurement), Central Records Management, and Building Management.



# AIR QUALITY DIVISION



**DIRECTOR**  
**KENDAL STEGMANN**



**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR**  
**BEVERLY BATCHLET-SMITH**



The Air Quality Division oversees a number of DEQ's regulatory programs. These include air monitoring and modeling; permitting; compliance & enforcement; emissions inventory; the Lead-Based Paint Program; the Ozone & Particulate Matter Watch & Advisory Program; and delegated federal programs.

The federal programs delegated to DEQ's Air Quality Division include National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPS), New Source Performance Standards (NSPS), Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT), Title V, Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD), and Lead-Based Paint.

## AIR QUALITY INDEX

0-50	GOOD
51-100	MODERATE
101-150	UNHEALTHY FOR SENSITIVE GROUPS
151-200	UNHEALTHY





**DIRECTOR  
KELLY DIXON**



**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
CLIFTON HOYLE**

# LAND PROTECTION DIVISION

The Land Protection Division's responsibilities can be split into two groups; Permitting & Compliance, and Cleanup Programs. Permitting & Compliance oversees the solid waste, hazardous waste, underground injection, and radiation sections. Cleanup Programs include the Superfund, Brownfields and Voluntary Cleanup Programs, and the Site Cleanup Assistance Program.



**DIRECTOR  
SHELLIE CHARD**



**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
KAREN STEELE**

# WATER QUALITY DIVISION

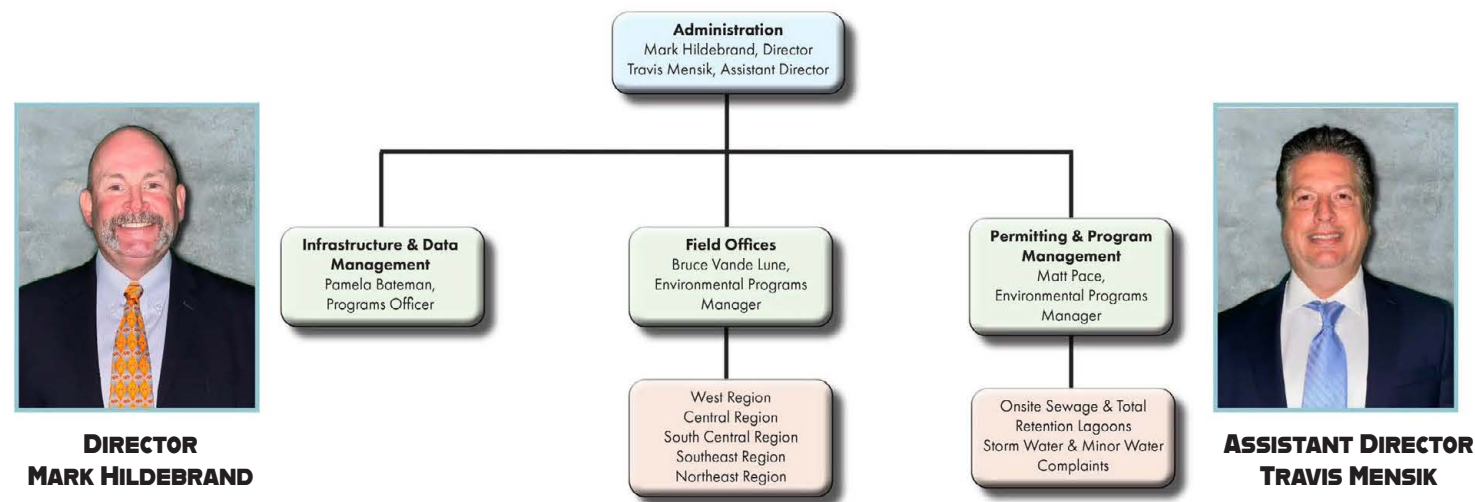
DEQ's Water Quality Division has a number of responsibilities. WQD protects the quality of waters in the state under the Clean Water Act, overseeing approximately 1,900 wastewater systems, 1,500 storm water permits, 125 TMDLs per year, and 370 construction permits per year. WQD also ensures that the public has safe drinking water under

the Safe Drinking Water Act, overseeing 1,700 systems and issuing 860 construction permits per year. They oversee operators of water and wastewater facilities throughout the state – a total of 8,000 operators and 12,000 licenses. They issue 140 Water Reuse Permits. They also oversee infrastructure funding for publicly-owned water and wastewater facilities.

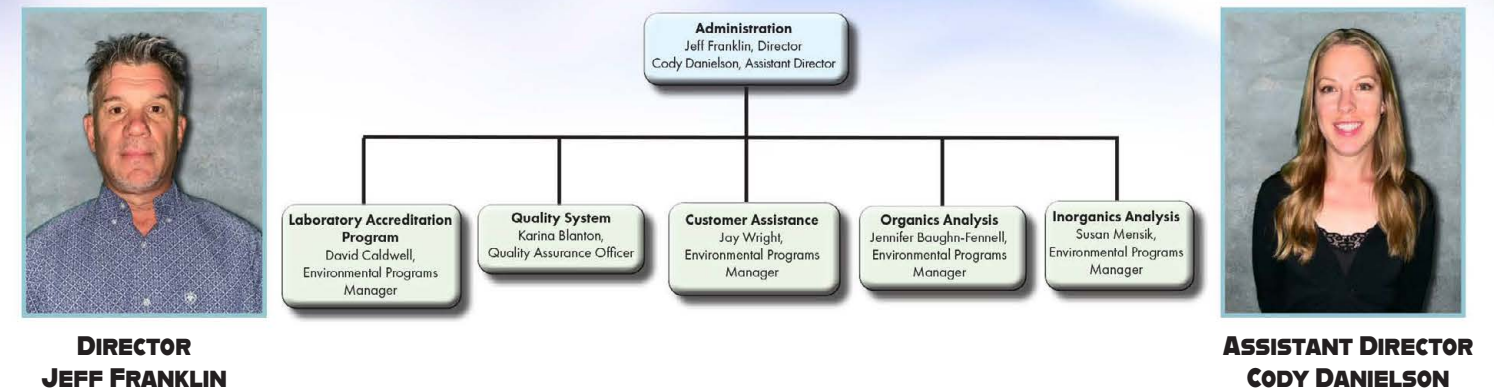


# ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLAINTS & LOCAL SERVICES DIVISION

The Environmental Complaints and Local Services Division has offices throughout the state. They respond to environmental complaints received by DEQ's 24-hour, toll-free Environmental Complaints Hotline (1-800-522-0206). ECLS provides technical and customer assistance to regulated entities and the public, and is responsible for regulating individual and small public sewage systems, certified installers, certified soil profilers, highway remediation contractors, septage pumpers and haulers, total retention lagoons, stormwater systems, and minor water systems.



# STATE ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY SERVICES DIVISION

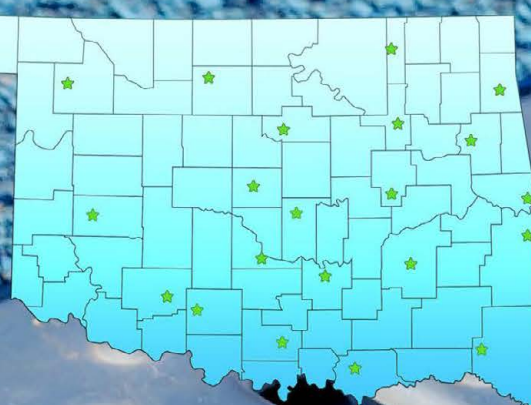


The State Environmental Laboratory Services responsibilities consist of two main areas: the SELS core functions, and program and customer support. Core functions of this division include running the State Environmental Laboratory, which handles Organics and Inorganics (General Chemistry, Metals & Radiochemistry, Environmental Microbiology). The lab also serves as an EPA

Designated Principal Laboratory, oversees the Laboratory Accreditation Program, and provides customer assistance in the realms of sample management and sample assistance. Program and Customer Support includes providing assistance to Public Water Supplies; Wastewater Systems; solid and hazardous waste programs; Superfund and other cleanup sites; testing for mercury in fish; testing related to environmental complaints; providing BUMP & Groundwater

Monitoring, and Surface Water Monitoring for the Oklahoma Water Resources Board; testing for the Oklahoma Corporation Commission; testing for the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation and US Fish and Wildlife Services; assistance with Harmful Algal Blooms; testing for environmental threats to public health; testing private water; and providing tribal assistance.

## ECLS Local Field Offices







# DEQ FUNDING

## PRINCIPAL CONTACTS FOR BOARD MEMBERS

DEQ's funding comes from three main sources. These are:

- **Revolving Fund (licenses, permits, and other fees charged by DEQ)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| -Air Pollution Control Annual Operating | -Operator Certification                |
| -Air Annual Operating                   | -Petroleum Storage Tank Indemnity Fund |
| -Air Pollution Control Application      | -Plan Review                           |
| -Air Permit Application                 | -Private Sewage                        |
| -CAFO/MACO (VCP)                        | -Private Water Analysis                |
| -Contractual Lab Analysis               | -Private Water Well Inspection         |
| -E-Waste Recycling                      | -Public Water Supply (Annual)          |
| -Environmental Awareness License Plate  | -Public Water Supply Lab               |
| -Grant Reimbursement for Lab Analysis   | -Radiation Management                  |
| -Hazardous Waste                        | -SARA Title III                        |
| -Highway Remediation Licensing          | -Total Retention Lagoon                |
| -Industrial & Municipal PDES            | -Septage Pumpers and Transporters      |
| -Industrial X-Ray (Radiation)           | -Soil Profiler License                 |
| -Lab Accreditation                      | -Solid Waste                           |
| -Lead Abatement Certification           | -Stormwater                            |
| -Minor Public Water Supply System       | -Tire Recycling                        |
| -On-Site Sewage Treatment               | -Underground Injection Control Permits |
| System Installation Certification       |  |

- **Federal Grants**
- **State Appropriations**

Four DEQ programs are partially funded by state appropriations. They are:

- PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY
- WASTEWATER
- STATE ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY
- ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLAINTS

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